



State Senator **NANCY CASSIS** *E-NEWS UPDATE*

Renew Michigan plan offers hope for economic revival

The Senate this week approved legislation I sponsored to lower business taxes and restrain the growth of government spending. Senate Bills 633 and 634 are key elements of the Renew Michigan plan to cut business taxes and stimulate the economy while restraining the growth of government spending. It sets the stage for Michigan's long-awaited economic recovery.

The national economy is growing and the national unemployment figures are falling, but in Michigan we are seeing the exact opposite. This plan is just the first step in many changes we need to make to improve Michigan's business climate, but it's a tremendously important first step.

SB 633 reduces the overall Single Business Tax rate, allowing businesses to invest in new technology and hire more workers. SB 634 changes the way businesses pay the SBT by removing the penalty business pay on job creation. Currently, companies based in Michigan are taxed on their payroll and property in addition to their sales. By focusing the SBT exclusively on sales, we can reduce the competitive disadvantage Michigan companies have versus out of state businesses.

The plan goes further in removing the tax on employer-provided health care over the next few years – making it easier for job providers to provide health care for their employees.

This is not a shift and shaft and this is not revenue-neutral plan. It's real, honest tax relief and a message to job providers that Michigan is open for business.

Beck Road is open at last

Monday I was thrilled to cut the ribbon opening the long-awaited Beck Road/I-96 interchange. This is great news for the many thousands of motorists who will use this safer and better-designed interchange. As you know, I have been fighting for this project since 1997. It took eight years of tough legislative work to see it through, but it was worth it.

I would like to thank the City of Novi, City of Wixom, Oakland County Road Commission, Michigan Department of Transportation, local leaders, area businesses and citizens for all the help in getting the job done. This new modern interchange improves the safety of our traveling public, encourages economic development and is something we can all be proud of.

Contact Information:

The E-News Update by Senator Nancy Cassis is designed to provide residents and organizations with a periodic update of my activity in Lansing. If you have any questions or do not wish to receive this e-mail, please contact my office.

Phone: (888) 38-NANCY Fax: (517) 373-0938

Mail: P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909

E-mail: sennccassis@senate.michigan.gov

Our website address is: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/cassis/index.htm>